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| **OBDRR Number** | [**041**](https://www.ercot.com/mktrules/issues/OBDRR041#summary) | **OBDRR Title** | **Updates to Requirements for Aggregate Load Participation in the ERCOT Markets** |
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| **Date** | | June 12, 2022 | |
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| **Submitter’s Information** | | | |
| **Name** | | Gail Alfar | |
| **E-mail Address** | | [gailalfartexas@gmail.com](mailto:gailalfartexas@gmail.com) | |
| **Company** | |  | |
| **Phone Number** | | 512-839-6378 | |
| **Cell Number** | | 512-839-6378 | |
| **Market Segment** | | Not applicable | |

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| **Comments** |

Dear ERCOT and all concerned,

Some weeks ago, Texans were warned by [ERCOT](https://www.ercot.com/news/release?id=8b772e9e-51d0-4c3c-e653-1e5079f28e89), “With unseasonably hot weather driving record demand across Texas, ERCOT continues to work closely with the power industry to make sure Texans have the power they need. This afternoon, six power generation facilities tripped offline resulting in the loss of approximately 2,900 MW of electricity. At this time, all generation resources available are operating. We’re asking Texans to conserve power when they can by setting their thermostats to 78-degrees or above and avoiding the usage of large appliances (such as dishwashers, washers, and dryers) during peak hours.”

During this hot summer, Tesla is fully prepared to step in with a smart solution to the problem. I learned details about this during a Workshop I attended on May 31, 2022. “Tesla Virtual Power Plant Workshop, Related to OBDRR041” was hosted by ERCOT and led by top leaders at Tesla Energy.

Tesla Powerwall owners can act as an aggregate source of power and are an important untapped resource for energy. Tesla built a demonstration test in which about 60 Tesla Powerwall battery owners participated in providing energy as an aggregate. The demo showed impressive performance, proving that there were no technical blocks to these owners providing power to the Texas grid.

Tesla is requesting for ERCOT to allow all interested Powerwall owners to contribute to the Texas grid as a combined cluster.

Minor Changes to ERCOT’s current practices are neededfor this **important short-term solution.**

My understanding is that having people contribute as an aggregate will ensure that the energy that is offered to the grid is powerful, stable, and reliable. Tesla’s powerful software currently has very precise capabilities to deliver stored energy to power a homeowner's home and electric car, keep power stored up and also send energy to most local utilities for their use. However, Arushi Sharma Frank, Tesla Policy/Energy, explained clearly after the workshop, “Nothing in Texas today lets homes behave like a hive mind and deliver clean MWs 24x 7 to the grid.” She explained that the main thing slowing down Tesla from unleashing this powerful lifesaving technology is “technical acrobatics.”

I listened to some of these “technical acrobatics” during the workshop, and as the minutes wore on, I was invited to comment, I took the opportunity to explain that I am a Texas-registered nurse, in the business of caring for families, some of whom were deeply affected by the last severe power outage in February 2021. I explained that since Tesla has already demonstrated that they can provide power through Powerwall owners, there should be no delay in allowing full participation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Gail Alfar

this letter is based on the blog post I wrote here: <https://whatsuptesla.com/2022/06/04/vpp/>

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| **Revised Cover Page Language** |

None

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| **Revised Proposed Other Binding Document Language** |

None